



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Issued: 0800 CT

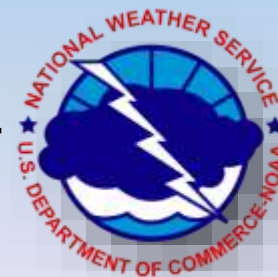
Day One Weather Hazards: *Critical to extreme fire weather conditions are expected from Central into NE NM and the Panhandles.*

Major Flooding at points in NE AR. Widespread minor to moderate river flooding across AR, E TX and LA.

Isolated strong to severe storms possible over the ArkLaTex; hail is the main threat.

National Weather Service

*Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX*



Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points



Today

- **Critical to extreme fire weather conditions** for Central through NE NM, W & NW TX and the Panhandles; rapid spreading of any wildfire is likely
- Isolated strong to severe storms possible over the ArkLaTex; hail is the main threat

Monday

- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions are possible from the Panhandles into NW TX and much of LA in the afternoon
- A few strong to severe storms possible from SE TX through LA into SE AR; hail and damaging winds are the main threats

Tuesday - Thursday

- No significant weather expected

River Flood Status

- The Cache River in NE AR is expected to remain near Major flood this week; roads are likely under water, homes may be threatened. Points along Ouachita River in S AR and along White River in NE AR may reach Major flood stage in the next few days.
- Widespread minor to moderate river flooding is occurring & will continue this week in E TX, AR & LA. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.
- Due to recent rainfall over the Ohio River and Upper MS River, water will be making its way down into the Lower MS River in the next several weeks, moderate to major flooding is expected (similar to May 2017).

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 4, 2018 through Mar 8, 2018

DAY / THREAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Severe Storms	ArkLaTex				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding		SE TX, LA			
Fire Weather	Cntrl & NE NM, Panhandles	Panhandles, NW TX, OK			
	NM, W & NW TX				
Winter					
River Flooding	S & NE AR				
	E TX, AR, LA				

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

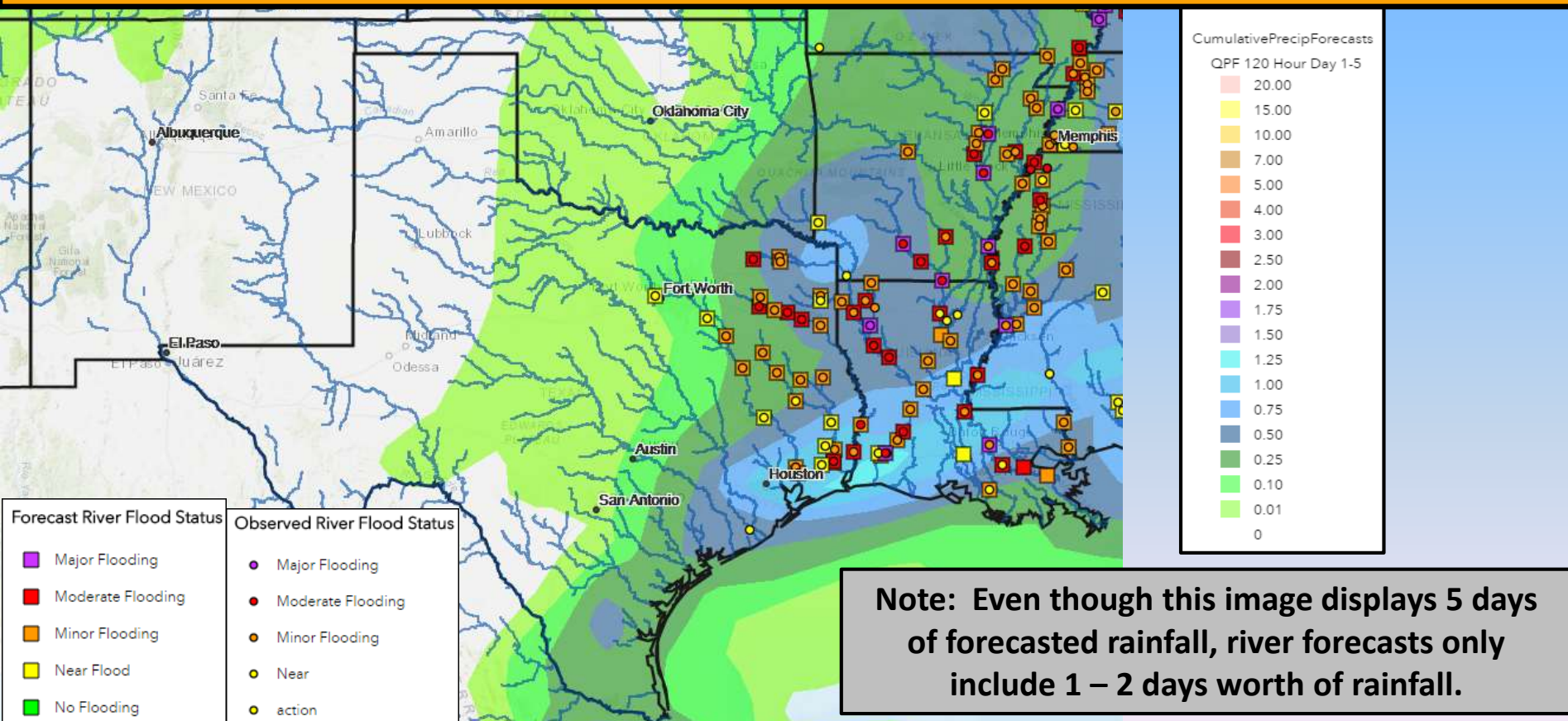


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

The Cache River in NE AR is expected to remain near Major flood this week; roads are likely under water, homes may be threatened. Points along Ouachita River in S AR and along White River in NE AR may reach Major flood stage in the next few days.

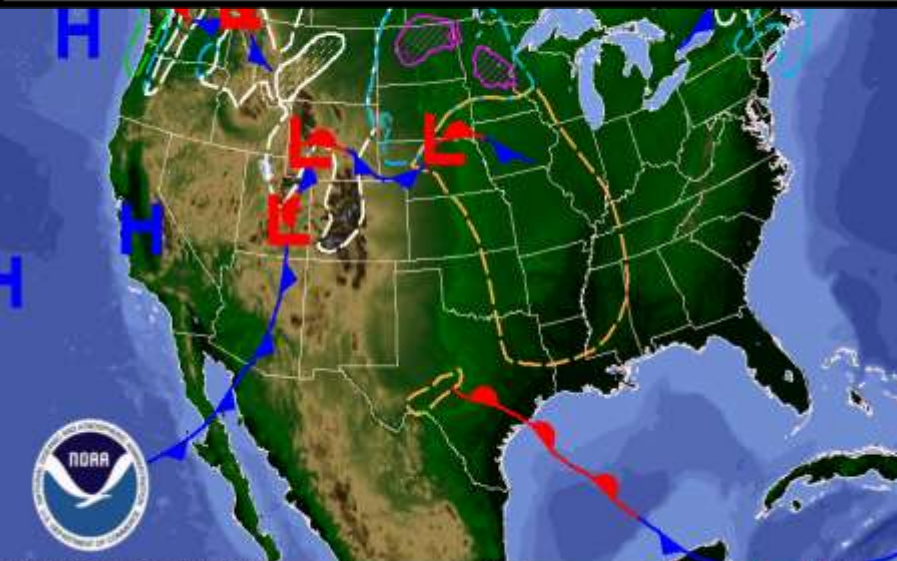
Widespread minor to moderate river flooding is occurring & will continue this week in E TX, AR & LA. Impacts are mostly to secondary roads and agriculture.

Due to recent rainfall over the Ohio River and Upper MS River, water will be making its way down into the Lower MS River in the next several weeks, moderate to major flooding is expected (similar to May 2017).



See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

Today's Weather

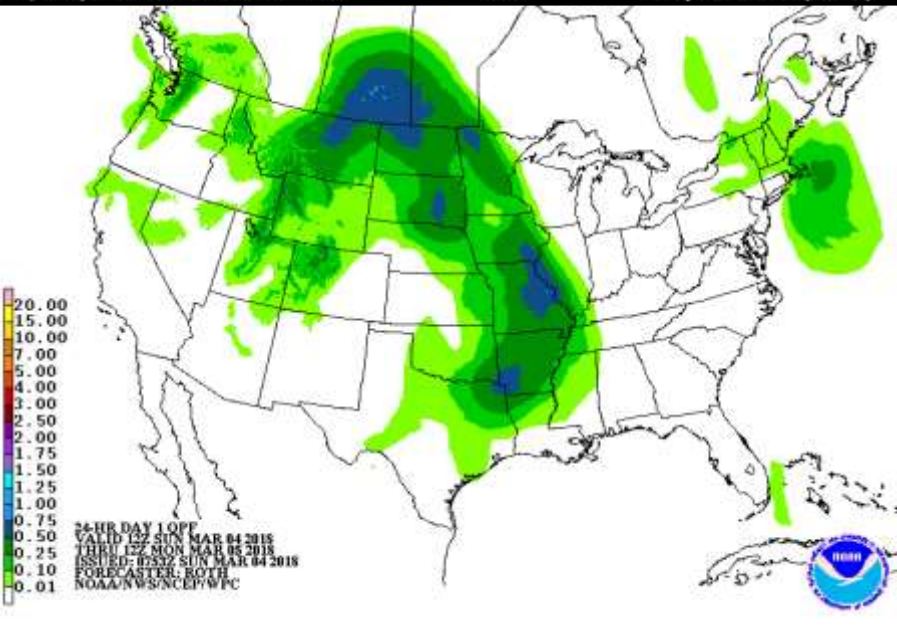


Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Mar 04, 2018, issued 4:01 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Rainhart with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24-HR DAY 1 OPI
VALID 12Z SUN MAR 04 2018
THRU 12Z MON MAR 05 2018
ISSUED: 0332Z SUN MAR 04 2018
FORECASTER: ROTH
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Minor to moderate river flooding will continue over AR, E TX and LA; there are points in AR & LA that are in Major Flood Stage as well.

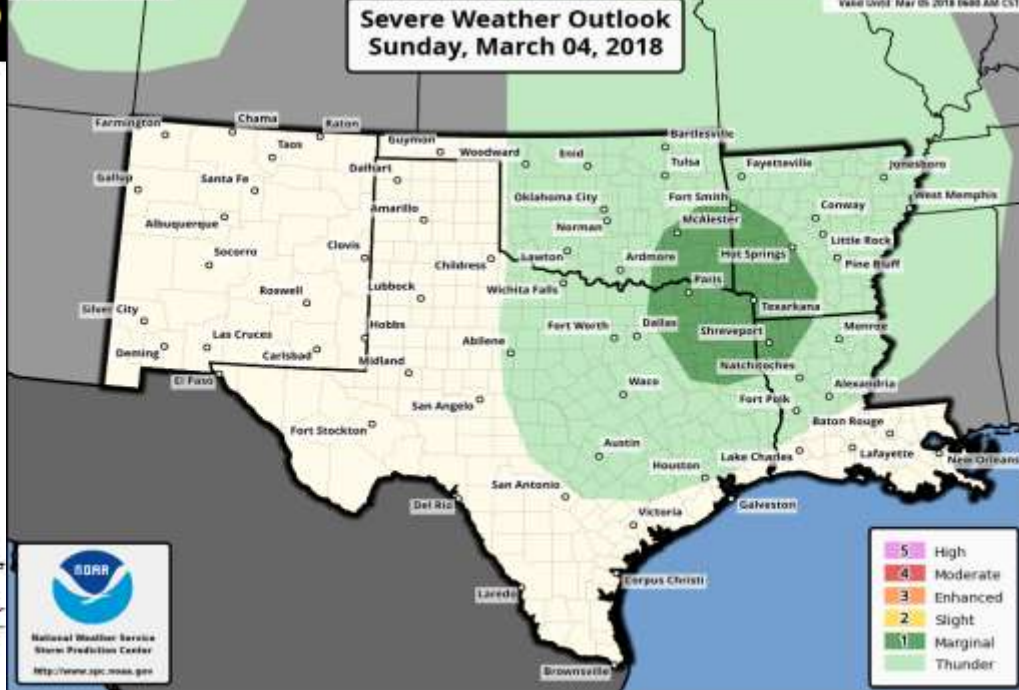
Critical to extreme fire weather conditions for Central through NE NM, W & NW TX & Panhandles.

Isolated strong to severe storms possible in the afternoon through late night over the ArkLaTex; hail is the main threat.

Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

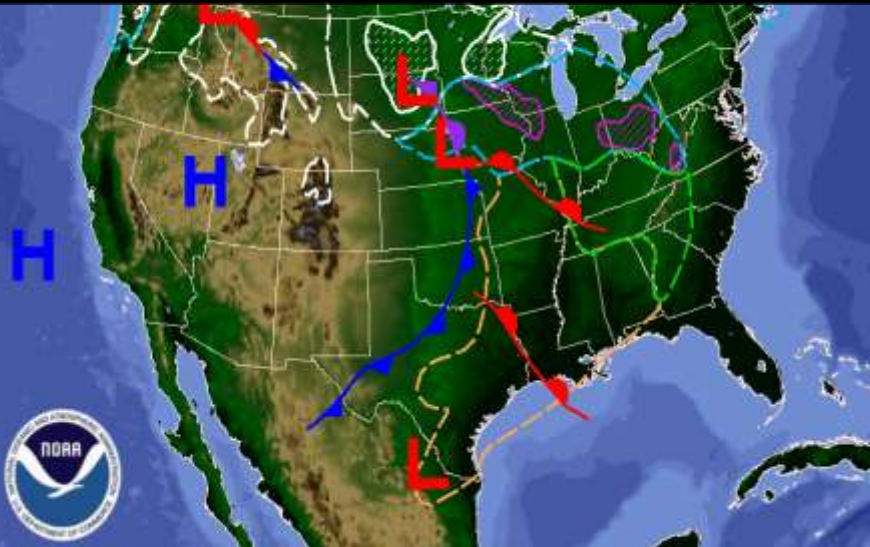
Severe Weather Outlook Sunday, March 04, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 04 2018 6:00 AM CST
Valid Until: Mar 05 2018 06:00 AM CST



5 High
4 Moderate
3 Enhanced
2 Slight
1 Marginal
Thunder

Tomorrow's Weather



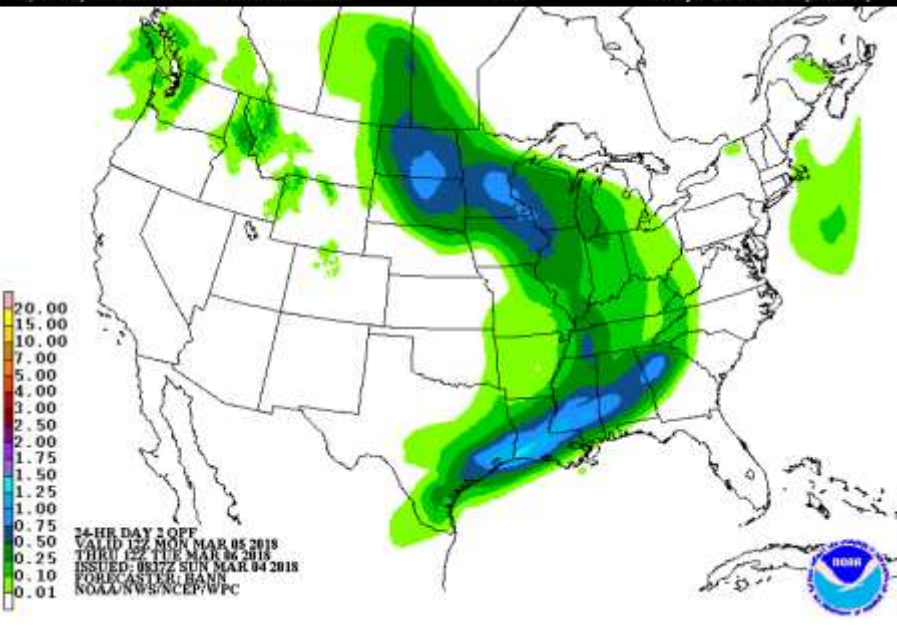
Day 2 National Forecast Chart
Valid Mon, Mar 05, 2018, issued 4:04 AM EST Sun, Mar 04, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Rainhart with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

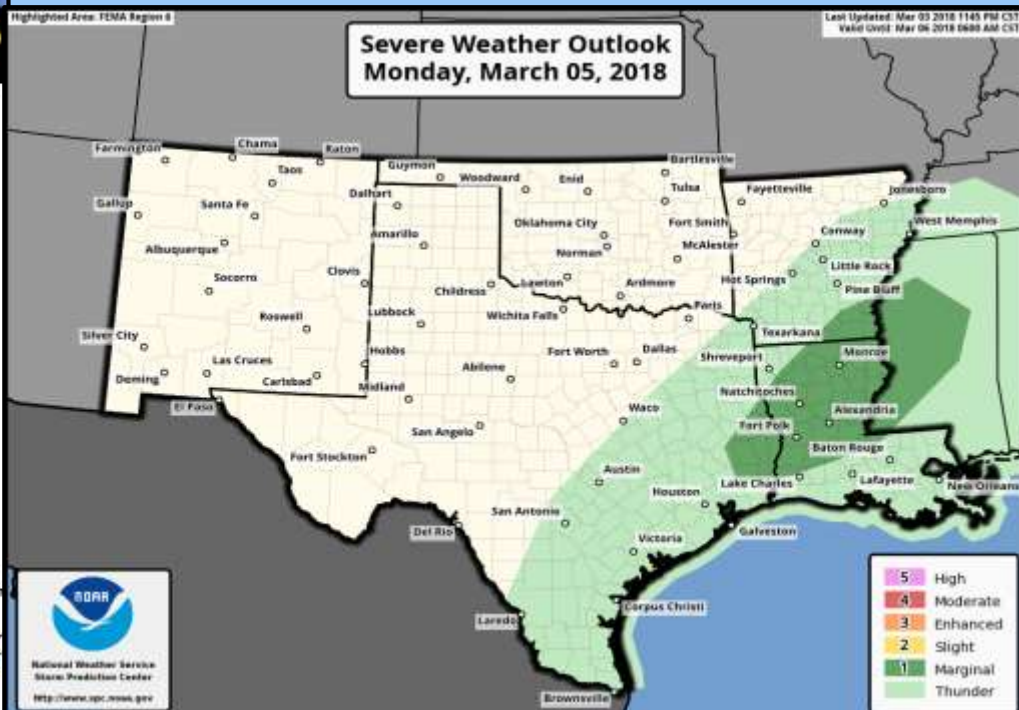
Isolated strong to severe storms possible over SE TX through LA and SE AR; damaging winds and hail are the main threats.

Minor to moderate river flooding will continue over AR, E TX and LA; there are points in AR & LA that will be in Major Flood Stage as well.

Elevated to critical fire weather conditions are possible over the Panhandles through NW TX and much of OK.



24-HR DAY 2 OPT
VALID 12Z MON MAR 05 2018
THRU 12Z TUE MAR 06 2018
ISSUED 0817Z SUN MAR 04 2018
FORECASTER: RAIN
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC



Severe Weather Outlook
Monday, March 05, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 03 2018 1145 PM CST
Valid UNDS: Mar 05 2018 0600 AM CST

Tuesday's Weather

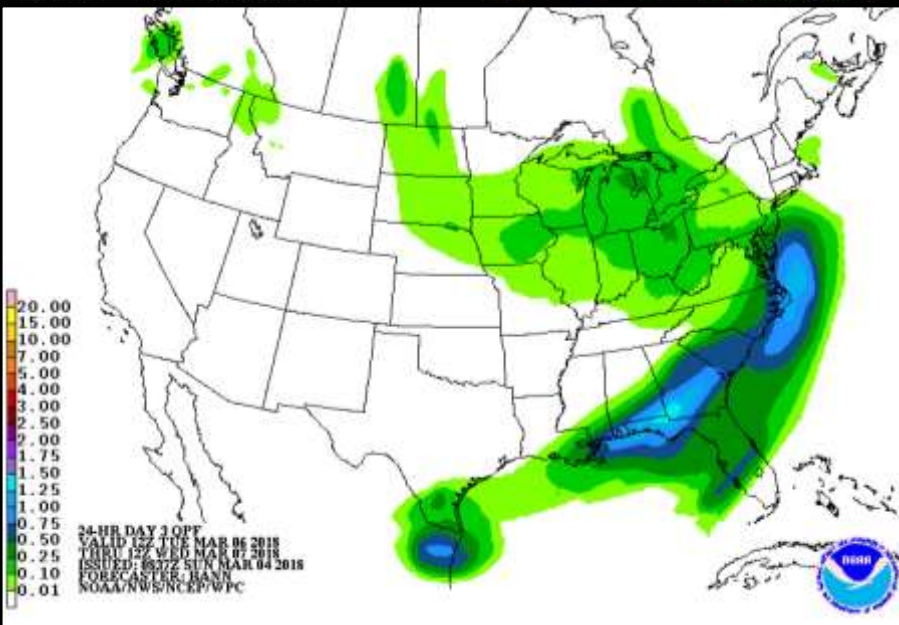


Minor to moderate river flooding will continue over AR, E TX and LA; there are points in AR that will be in Major Flood Stage as well.

Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Mar 06, 2018, issued 4:06 AM EST Sun, Mar 04, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Reinhart with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, March 06, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 04 2018 5:20 AM CST
Valid Until: Mar 07 2018 0600 AM CST

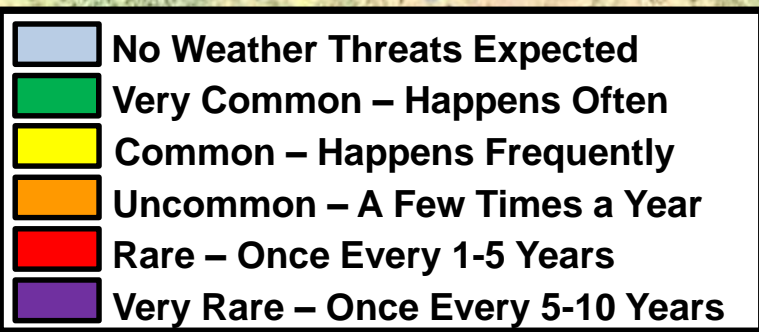


Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Wednesday - Thursday



**No Significant
Weather Expected**

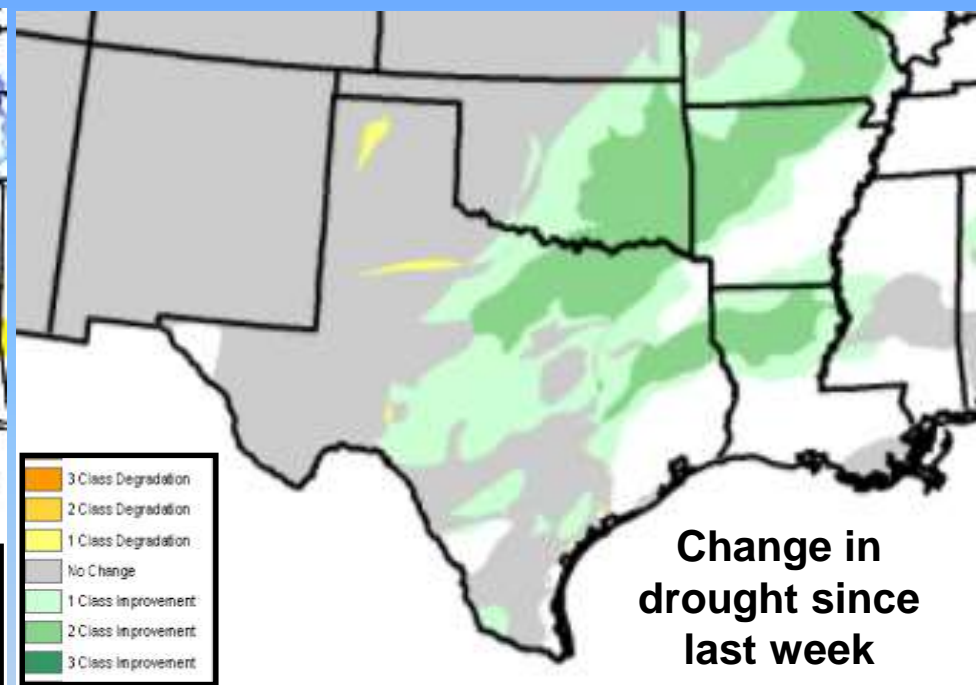
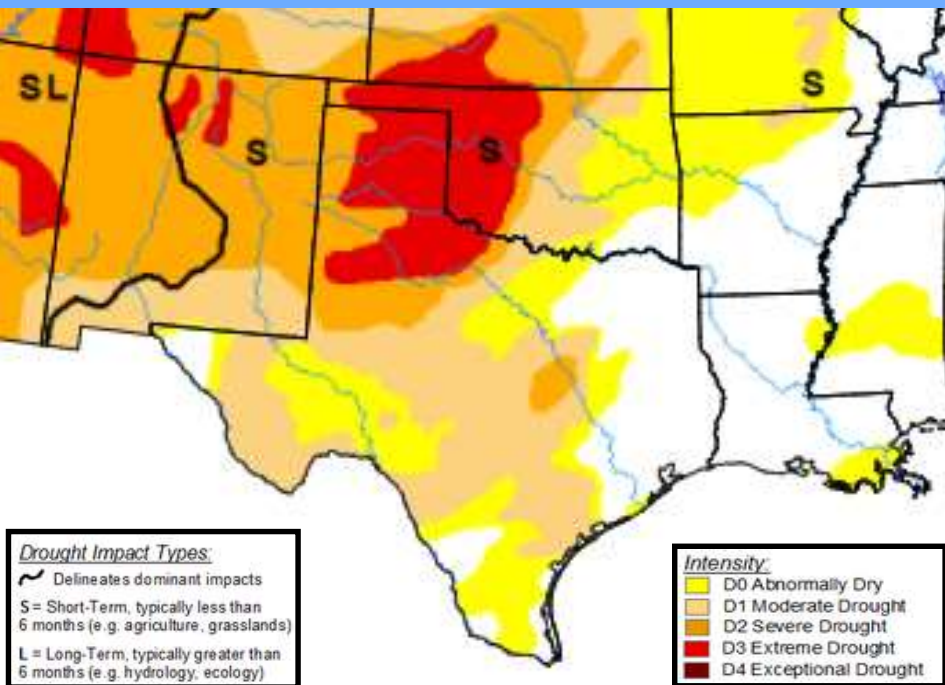


*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released March 1, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, Feb 27, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	1.91%	14.66%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	32.91%	37.80%	0.78%	0.18%
Texas	11.47%	11.13%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	5.23%	5.23%	0.00%	0.00%

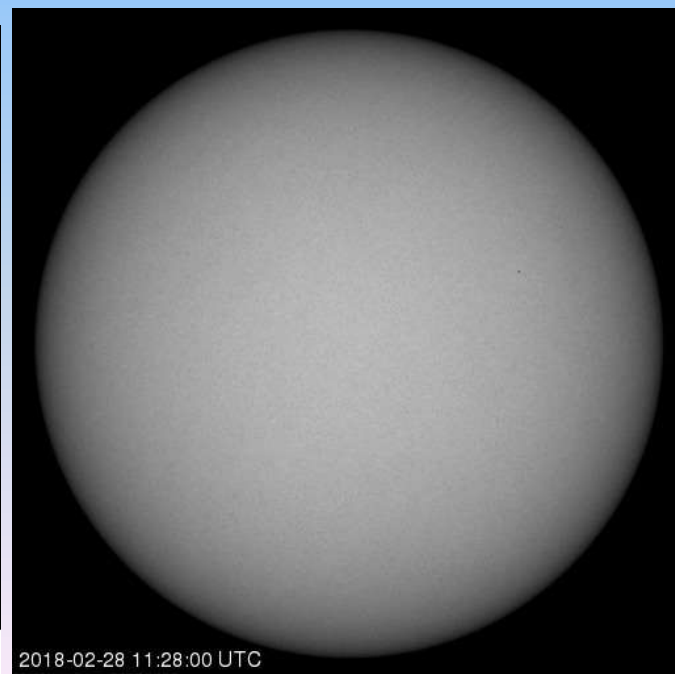
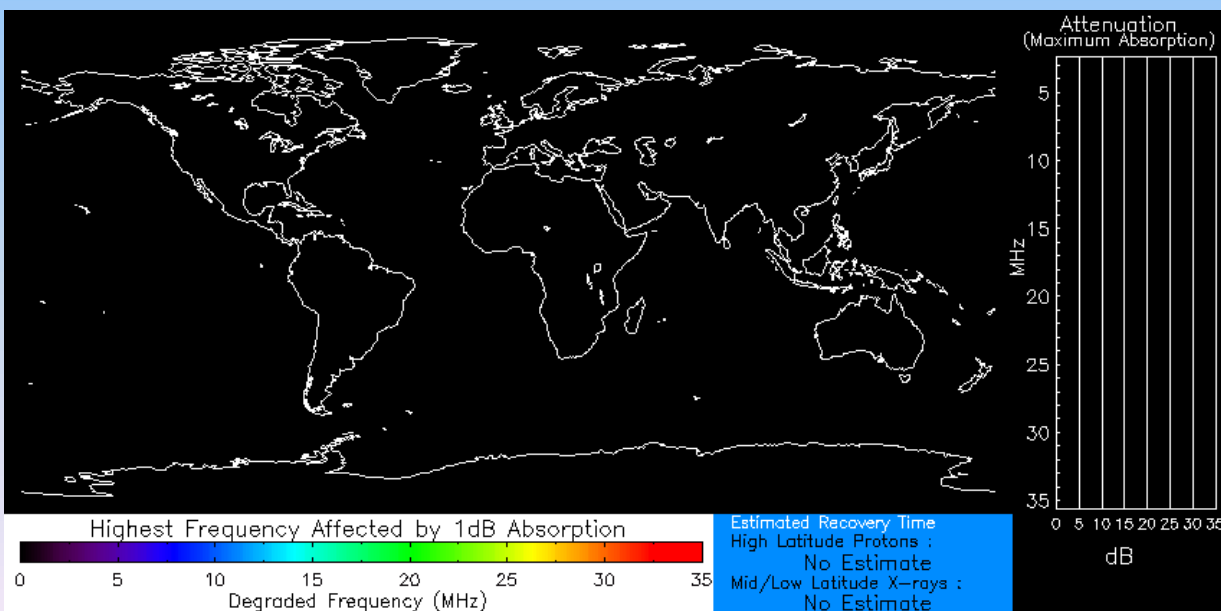
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal X-ray Background
Product Valid At : 2018-03-04 14:10 UTC

Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

2018-02-28 11:28:00 UTC

Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

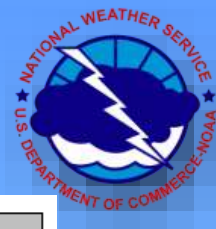
facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms